

Wage Revision

5931. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI had approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the wage revision for FCI employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry have refused to accept that MOU and has suggested some cuts and amendments to that proposal;

(d) the details thereof;

(e) whether the Unions of workers have decided to accept the stand of his Ministry; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to save the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The MOU covers the wage proposals for category III & IV employees on IDA pattern for the period from 1.2.1992 to 31.12.1996, costing around Rs. 315 crores for the entire period of settlement.

(c) The Ministry has approved the MOU with certain minor amendments.

(d) The amendments made by the Government relate to certain allowances and perks.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The Unions of workers of FCI have already signed on 6.5.1997 a Memorandum of Settlement in respect of undisputed items of the wage revision proposal with the management.

[Translation]

Cost of Production of Sugar

5932. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of slight variation of sugar prices in international market Indian sugar goes out of the competition;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether due to present levying of tax on sugar, its price has increased in the country;

(d) if so, the estimated percentage of taxes and raw material in the cost of production of sugar; and

(e) the measures to be taken by the Government to bring down the prices of sugar in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The export of sugar depends upon a host of factors including international sugar prices.

(c) and (d) There is no increase in the taxes on sugar presently. Components of all-India average ex-factory price per quintal of levy sugar for 1996-97 are Cane cost Rs. 597.42, Conversion cost Rs. 275.83 and Return Rs. 128.02 totalling Rs. 1000.77. The post factory taxes are (i) Central excise duty on levy sugar Rs. 38 per quintal, on levy free sugar Rs. 71 per quintal and (ii) Sugar cess Rs. 14 per quintal (export exempted).

(e) Government keeps check on prices of sugar by judicious releases every month.

[English]

Foodgrains Stock in Madhya Pradesh

5933. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the present foodgrains stock in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Madhya Pradesh as compared to the stocks of last two years; and

(b) the target fixed for stocking foodgrains in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The stock position of wheat and rice in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Madhya Pradesh as on 1.4.1997 as compared to 1.4.1996 and 1.4.1995 are as under :

(In lakh tonnes)

As on	Wheat	Rice	Total
1.4.97(P)	0.46	6.06	6.52
1.4.96(P)	1.65	8.42	10.07
1.4.95(P)	2.60	10.79	13.39

(P) - Provisional.